

DELAWARE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS BOARD

**The Townsend Building
401 Federal Street, Suite 2
Dover, Delaware 19901**

Meeting Minutes

**The Department of Education
The Cabinet Room**

**November 4, 2010
5:15 p.m.**

Members Present: Joanne Christian, Stephanie DeWitt, Karen Gordon, Cristy Greaves, Chris Kenton, David Kohan, Jill Lewandowski, Wendy Murray, Shelley Rouser, Kathleen Thomas and Jacqueline Wisnauskas

Members Absent: Michael Casson, Samtra Devard, Marilyn Dollard, Lori Hudson and Whitney Price.

Others Present: Charlie Michels; PSB Executive Director, Paula Fontello; Deputy Attorney General, Judi Coffield; State Board of Education Policy Analyst, Pearl Carrington; Secretary to PSB, Debbie Stevens, DSEA

I. Opening

Call to Order: Ms. Thomas, Professional Standards Board Chair, called the meeting to Order at 5:20 p.m.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Ms. DeWitt and seconded by Ms. Murray to approve the evening's Agenda. The motion carried.

Approval of Minutes of October 7, 2010: A motion was made by Ms. Lewandowski and seconded by Mr. Kenton to approve the PSB Minutes of October 7, 2010. The motion carried.

II. Public Comment

None

III. DOE Report

Mr. Cruce, DOE Deputy Secretary, reported on the latest Race To The Top (RTTT) initiatives and educational reform developments in Delaware.

- RFPs for Data and Development Coaches as well as Leadership Training were closed.

- A broad-based Team was formed and has been reviewing Data Coach RFP responses. Ms. Thomas, as a Review Team member, shared her positive reaction of the process.
- Meetings with finalists for Development Coaches and Leadership Training PD have occurred.
- The RTTT Project Management Office's (PMO) re-posting for positions has closed and a group will review applications and set interviews as soon as possible.
- Mr. Cruce circulated biographies of both new RTTT and DDOE staff.
- The first set of Change Management (LEA Support) workshops has taken place with LEA teams in each County. New DOE staff member Ms. Rebecca Taber has been leading this work. Dr. Greaves spoke to her effectiveness in Laurel School District.

Mr. Cruce introduced Mr. Christopher Ruszkowski, Unit Deputy within the RTTT Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Unit

- Mr. Ruszkowski spoke to his new and evolving role in the TLEU and his involvement in the School Chief's four Workshops, inclusive of:
 - Process
 - Teacher and Leaders
 - Standards and Assessments
 - Low Performing Schools
- The last 3 Workshops listed will be held over the next several months.

Mr. Chris Kenton left the meeting at 5:50 PM.

IV. **Executive Director's Report**

- Mr. Michels attended and participated in the Department's Office of Teacher and Administrator Quality Development's Quarterly Meeting on October 13, 2010.
- Mr. Michels attended the DESS Advisory Committee meeting on October 22, 2010. The Committee reviewed and then implemented a broad-based data-informed rubric for recommending both Blue Ribbon and Title II Distinguished Schools.
- Mr. Michels stated that he attended the ETS Regional Client Meeting on October 25-26, 2010 in Alexandria, VA. The following were topics covered during the informative meeting.
 - Updates on new computerized versions of Praxis II tests
 - Regional Standard Setting Studies for various content areas
 - National Review Committees for various content areas
 - Interactive Practice Tests: a great way to study for a test
- Mr. Michels noted that Ms. Thomas and he attended the DE Teacher of the Year Banquet at Dover Downs on October 26, 2010. He further stated that PSB had received a thank you card from Mr. Joseph Masiello, the 2011 DE Teacher of the Year from the Red Clay Consolidated School District. Mr. Masiello will receive an invitation from Mr. Michels to attend a future PSB meeting
- The PSB Retreat was held on October, 23rd in the Nature Center at Killen's Pond State Park.
 - There were critical conversations on Emergency Certification and Administration Certifications.

- The PSB Retreat Minutes are forthcoming and edits from those who attended the Retreat are welcome.
- Mr. Michels stated that with his facilitation, the DOE is moving forward with ETS on Praxis II tests for Technology Education, Family and Consumer Sciences, Marketing Education, and Health Education. It is a complex process that has been initiated and is anticipated to be completed and Final Approvals made by late Spring of 2011
- Mr. Michels briefly shared information he heard at the October 21 SBE meeting regarding the availability of resources for parents from the DE Parent Teacher Association (PTA), the DE Parent Information Center (PIC) and the DE Parent Information Resource Center (PIRC). These groups, by request of Secretary Lowery, will be working to build a consortium in order to provide expertise for parents.
- Mr. Michels updated the Board on the status of the pending petition for the revocation matter.

V. **Action Items**

A. **1517 Permits Paraeducators**

This regulation was approved for Publication by the PSB and the State Board. The amended regulation was published in the Delaware Register of Regulations and a Public Notice was printed in two DE newspapers. Mr. Michels had not received any written comments. It was before the Board for Final Approval. Mr. Kohan made a motion for the Final Approval of **1517 Permits Paraeducators**. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wisnauskas. The motion carried.

B. **1583 School Psychologist**

This regulation was approved for Publication by the PSB and the State Board. The amended regulation was published in the Delaware Register of Regulations and a Public Notice was printed in two DE newspapers. Mr. Michels had not received any written comments. Mr. Michels noted that the Registrar of Regulations took editorial privilege in reformatting the regulation as presented to the Register, but no changes in content were made. Ms. Fontello confirmed this. It was before the Board for Final Approval. Ms. Lewandowski made a motion for the Final Approval of **1583 School Psychologist**. The motion was seconded by Dr. Greaves. The motion carried

C. **Mentoring Program Application Documents**

A discussion ensued regarding the 4 related Mentoring documents: the Application, the Application Rubric and both Mid-Year and End-of-Year evaluation forms. A few concerns were shared and Mr. Michels promised to resolve them by the December 2, 2010 PSB meeting, in order for the package to receive PSB approval. Following PSB approval, Mr. Michels will post them on the PSB website and alert district and charter school personnel of the availability.

V. Discussion

A. 1565 World Language Teacher

This regulation was approved to be published by the Board in October and will be before the SBE on November 18 for their concurrence to publish. The Board shared no further concerns or comments.

B. 1582 School Nurse

This regulation was approved to be published by both the PSB and the SBE in October and will have been published in the Delaware Register of Regulations and Public Notices were posted in the two major DE newspapers on November 1. Mr. Michels shared that he had received no written comments to date. A brief conversation followed regarding the whole policy issue of certifying School Nurses and concerns about substitute School Nurses.

C. 1556 School to Work Transition Teacher

This regulation is still at the initial stages of review. After an open discussion by PSB Members, Ms. Fontello stated that she has some concerns, regarding the approval process. It was discussed that the regulation may need to be amended to require the approval of courses and professional development by the Department, as opposed to the current draft with approvals coming from the JDG Office. Further review and consideration of the regulation is anticipated.

D. DE Code Amends

Mr. Michels spoke briefly to the PSB about moving forward with the initiative to amend DE Code to require the passing of Praxis I prior to Initial Licensure, with possible exceptions for ARTC and STS educators. The other proposed amendment to DE Code was to allow for alternative experiences to be used in lieu of student teaching for some Specialists. After discussion, it was apparent that in general, the Board Members approved of this initiative. Mr. Michels stated that he has been working with Dr. Susan Haberstroh, DOE Education Associate, Legislative Liaison and Regulation Review. At present, the Department and the Governor's Office is in agreement with the proposed changes.

E. Praxis I Scores

The Board had received a document with Praxis I cut scores from States, with some States allowing a composite score. Mr. Michels indicated that if the DE Code is amended to require the passing of Praxis I prior to licensure then regulation 1510 Initial Licensure would need to be amended to reflect changes. At that time consideration about DE cut scores and possibilities of maintaining a composite score will take place. There was a brief open discussion about the current Praxis I scores.

VI. Presentation

Dr. Greaves will report on her involvement with the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards: Principal Certification at December 2, 2010 PSB meeting.

VII. PSB Standing Committees

Licensure and Certification Criteria

The Licensure and Certification Criteria Committee has not met.

Professional Development and Associated Compensation

The Professional Development and Associated Compensation Committee has not met.

Mentoring Ad Hoc

The PSB Mentoring Ad Hoc Committee is now extinct.

VIII. Other

None

IX. Public Comment

None

X. Adjournment

A motion was made by Ms. Wisnauskas and seconded by Ms. Gordon to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:38p.m.